Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09 OES-07 SCA-01 VO-03 L-03 /051 W

-----210605Z 106690 /21

R 201650Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7683
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 7110

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, OCLR, UR, US

SUBJECT: SHORE LEAVE FOR CREWS OF US MERCHANT VESSELS

REFS: (A) STATE 114672, (B) MOSCOW 6920

- 1. UPON RECEIPT OF REF A, E/C COUNSELOR CALLED CHIEF OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTRY OF MERCHANT FLEET (AVERIN), TO STATE THAT ACCORDING TO OUR LATEST INFORMATION CREW OF MANHATTAN STILL DID NOT HAVE SHORE LEAVE. ALSO ADVISED RE PENDING ARRIVAL OF TRANSEASTERN WITH SIMILAR ANTICIPATED PROBLEM.
- 2. AVERIN STATED THAT OUR INFORMATION IS NOT CORRECT. HE HAD HEARD FROM ODESSEA ON MAY 19 THAT SITUATION HAD BEEN "SETTLED ON THE SPOT" BY VIST OF AVERIN'S DEPUTY, PALADICH, WHO HAD SUPPLIED PORT AUTHORITIES WITH LIST OF EXPECTED U.S. MERCHANT VESSELS. WITH RESPECT TO TRANSEASTERN AVERIN STATED, "THERE WILL BE NO PROBLEM." HOWEVER, HE THEN ADDED CAVEAT THAT HE HAS NO AUTHORITY OVER SOVIET IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS. AVERIN SAID THAT PALADICH WAS ALSO TRAVELING TO RIGA TO TRY TO FORESTALL ANY FUTURE PROBLEMS THERE.

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- 3. AVERIN REITERATED DESIRE TO MEET NEXT WEEK WITH EMBASSY OFFICIALS FOR REVIEW OF SITUATION.
- 4. CONSULAR COUNSELOR INFORMED MFA CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION DEPUTY CHIEF I. I. VASILYEV OF ECONOMIC COUNSELOR'S APPROACH TO AVERIN. VASILYEV COMMENTED THAT IN ALL INSTANCES IN WHICH

MFA ASSISTANCE IS REQUESTED, EMBASSY MUST PROVIDE IN ADDITION TO NAME OF SHIP AND SOVIET PORT FOLLOWING DATA: DATE OF SHIP'S ARRIVAL, NUMBER OF CREWMEN ABOARD.

5. CONSULAR COUNSELOR ALSO TELEPHONED KAP WHICH AGREED TO FOLLOW THROUGH WITH ODESSA AUTHORITIES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 20-May-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW07110
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D770181-0645

Format: TEL From: MOSCOW

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770536/aaaabent.tel

Line Count: 69 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2321408f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 STATE 114672, 77 MOSCOW 6920

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 11-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2437327 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SHORE LEAVE FOR CREWS OF US MERCHANT VESSELS

TAGS: CVIS, OCLR, UR, US

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2321408f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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